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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE
QUESTION OF CYPRUS
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT
STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 24 April 1998 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose the text of the proposal by the Russian Federation on the demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus and the maintenance of the security of its inhabitants.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, under agenda items 40, 61, 71 and 76, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) S. LAVROV

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ANNEX

Demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus and maintenance of the security of its inhabitants

Proposal submitted by the Russian Federation

The demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus is a universally acknowledged key element in a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem.

The purpose of demilitarization, based on the 1977 and 1979 high-level agreements between the Cypriot communities and on United Nations resolutions, is to create in Cyprus an equal level of security for all inhabitants of the island and an atmosphere of genuine mutual trust and cooperation between the two communities within the framework of a Federal Cypriot State.

The demilitarization will be effected by means of an agreed system of international guarantees under the auspices of the Security Council.

Basic principles

(a) The Federal Republic will have no federal armed forces except for a coastguard corps (service). The purposes, composition, strength, armament and deployment areas of the corps (service) shall be determined by a federal law.

(b) The Federal Republic shall not have any reserve forces. There shall be no military or paramilitary training of civilians.

(c) The Federal Republic and each component of the Federation shall have a police force.

(d) The security of the Federal Republic and of the components of the Federation shall be guaranteed.

Implementation measures

1. The achievement, under United Nations auspices and with the participation of the two Cypriot communities, as well as of Greece and Turkey, of agreement on the specific parameters and phases of demilitarization which would include, in particular:

A timetable for the withdrawal, prior to the establishment of the Federal Republic, of all non-Cypriot armed forces whose presence is not provided for by existing agreements;

A timetable for reductions in the strength of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot units until they are completely disbanded, with their weapons and military equipment being handed over to the United Nations forces for safekeeping;

Halting of the implementation of military construction programmes in both communities and handing over of existing military installations and facilities for use by the civilian authorities;

Cessation of arms purchases.

2. Establishment of an observation and verification committee (commission) with the participation of both Cypriot communities, the guarantor States, the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

3. The assumption by Turkey and Greece of a commitment to cease completely their military activity in and around Cyprus, to be monitored by the United Nations.

4. Maintenance in force of the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee and Treaty concerning the Establishment of the Republic of Cyprus, with possible agreed additions and amendments relating to the demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus.

5. Review by the Security Council of the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) in order to reflect the new situation.